

U.S. Application No.  
Unknown

International Application No.  
PCT/EP03/05586

Attorney Docket No.  
MEISS71.022APC

10/519338

Date: December 22, 2004

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**TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)  
CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 USC 371**

International Application No.: PCT/EP03/05586  
International Filing Date: May 27, 2003  
Priority Date Claimed: June 27, 2002  
Title of Invention: OPEN-PORE METAL COATING FOR JOINT REPLACEMENT IMPLANTS  
AND METHOD OF PRODUCTION  
Applicant(s) for DO/EO/US: PLUS Endoprothetik AG

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. (X) This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 USC 371.
2. (X) This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 USC 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 USC 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1).
3. (X) A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.
4. (X) A copy of the International Application as filed (35 USC 371(c)(2))
  - a) (X) has been transmitted by the International Bureau.
  - b) (X) a copy of Form PCT/1B/308 is enclosed.
5. (X) A translation of the International Application into English (35 USC 371(c)(2)).
6. (X) Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 USC 371(c)(3))  
(X) have not been made and will not be made.
7. (X) A copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report with any annexes thereto, such as any amendments made under PCT Article 34.
8. (X) An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
9. (X) International Search Report
10. (X) A FIRST preliminary amendment.
11. (X) International Application as Published – Face Sheet Only
12. (X) A return prepaid postcard.
13. (X) The following fees are submitted:

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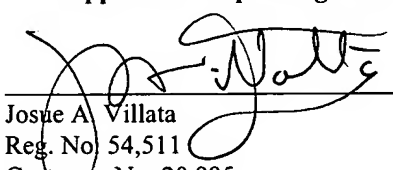
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				FEES
BASIC FEE				\$1000
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	
Total Claims	27 - 20 =	7 ×	\$50	\$350
Independent Claims	3 - 3 =	0 ×	\$200	\$0
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS				\$1350
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE				\$1350
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED				\$1350
amount to be refunded:				\$0
amount to be charged:				\$0

9. (X) The fee for later submission of the signed oath or declaration set forth in 37 CFR 1.492(e) will be paid upon submission of the declaration.
10. (X) A check in the amount of \$1350 to cover the above fees is enclosed.
11. (X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge only those additional fees which may be required, now or in the future, to avoid abandonment of the application, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

**NOTE:** Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.

SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

  
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10/519338

Josué A. Villalta  
949-721-7678  
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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"**

**Attorney Docket No.** : MEISS71.022APC

**Applicant(s)** : PLUS Endoprothetik A.G.

**For** : OPEN-PORE METAL COATING FOR JOINT  
REPLACEMENT IMPLANTS AND METHOD  
OF PRODUCTION

**Attorney** : Josué A. Villalta

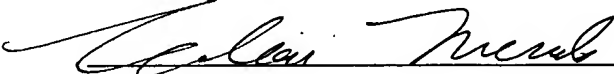
**"Express Mail"**  
**Mailing Label No.** : EV 309072039 US

**Date of Deposit** : December 22, 2004

I hereby certify that the accompanying

Transmittal letter; specification in 17 pages; Preliminary Amendment; Copy of International Preliminary Examination Report; Information Disclosure Statement, PTO Form 1449 without references; Copy of International Search Report; Face Sheet only for International Application as Published; PCT Form IB/308; Check for Filing Fee; Return Prepaid Postcard

are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and are addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

  
Nelson MeridaH:\DOCS\JXV\JXV-1957.DOC  
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